

THE BRITISH COLONIST
Thursday Morning, April 16, 1863.
TO ADVERTISERS.
All advertisements, unless the time for which they are to be inserted is specified, will be continued until ordered out, and no charge.
JOB PRINTING.
Book and Job Printing of every description neatly executed. Terms, cash on delivery of the work.
THE NEWS.
The news brought by the steamer yesterday shows no signs of improvement in the situation and prospects of the Federals. The Confederates manage to hold their own everywhere—whether it be on the Rappahannock or on the Mississippi. The famous General Hooker, the fighting general of Antietam, seems to be as successful in doing nothing as his predecessors; whilst his great antagonist Gen. Lee true to the Confederate defensive policy, waits his advance, and at the same time holds possession of the northeastern boundary of the Southern Republic. On the Yorktown peninsula, in the vicinity of Williamsburg, the Confederates are stopping any advance towards Richmond at that quarter; whilst Fitzhugh Lee is in the Shenandoah Valley to the southwest of Washington. The Potomac boundary is apparently held firmly enough by the Confederates, except a few spots here and there on or near its banks, such, for instance, as Fredericksburg, Williamsburg, and Harper's Ferry; but a foothold in the center of Virginia the Federals no where possess. Along the Atlantic and Gulf Coast from Chesapeake Bay to the Mouth of the Mississippi, the Federals here and there hold positions. For instance: in North Carolina, Port Royal in South Carolina, and some points in Florida; but they do not hold a foot of soil away from the seaboard. The Texas coast is simply blockaded. It is only when we turn our attention to the Valley of the Mississippi, that we discover the Federals in the heart of the Confederate territory. The department of Gen. Banks, extending from New Orleans up the river less than one hundred miles, the Federals possess. From the mouth of the Ohio down to Vicksburg, the Mississippi is out of the hands of the Confederates. Between Vicksburg and Port Hudson the latter are still the masters. All the efforts of the Federals, in their attempts to capture Vicksburg and Port Hudson, have been unavailing. It is in Tennessee only where the Federals hold a position in the heart of a Southern State. There Rosecrans, with a large army, holds the ground he conquered at the battle of Murfreesboro. With the exception of Missouri, the North has made a conquest of no seceding State. Looking over the whole Southern Confederacy by the light of late dispatches, we can see no improvement indicating even the probable conquest of the South. As a great whole, the authority of the Confederate States is maintained nearly everywhere. It is the de facto government, preserving its boundaries with one or two exceptions in defiance of Northern armies and Northern fleets. So long as that can be done, we need not wonder at the success of the Confederate loan in England; nor be surprised if peace be made by the North, or if some European State recognised the independence of the South. If after fighting two years, the North only gains a precarious foothold in the centre of one Southern State, what prospect can there be of a speedy suppression of the revolt? Facts are stubborn things; and let the Confederates but establish it as a fact that Rosecrans is forced out of Tennessee into Kentucky, and the last blow may be said to have been struck to secure the independence of the South. We may naturally expect that the whole energies of the Confederate Government will be directed to that object; for when that is accomplished it can sue for recognition as a right. For when any country maintains its boundaries against an invading army, it is a nationality beyond the possibility of a doubt and worthy of being received into the family of nations. In the very nature of things then, we may expect to hear of some great battles in Tennessee, and a long siege to open the Mississippi. Neither side has done more than rest in winter-quarters during the past winter. The fighting season is now opening and war on a grand scale may be anticipated. How the North will succeed it is difficult to foresee.

The time of enlistment of some 200,000 or 300,000 of its army will cease very shortly, and nothing but conscripts can supply their place; and nothing but successes will make conscription practicable, not to say an easy matter. If the rumored capture of Charleston be true, it will give a new and slight impulse to the Northern cause, and it will take several of such affairs to drown the voice of the North peace party and inoculate the Free States with the notion of substituting volunteers for conscripts. The recent elections in Ohio, Connecticut and Indiana are favorable to the Union party. This is the most favorable item to the North in our telegraphic news. The people still appear disposed to continue the war and support the administration. So long as they remain in that spirit, peace will be postponed. Allusion is made to a probable rupture with the United States, growing out of the fitting out of Confederate privateers in England, but we cannot believe that to be likely. The North has enough on its hands without grappling with England. The independence of the South would be assured at the moment a declaration of war was made. Mr. Seward is too wise to try that game.

REGISTRATION OF MINING CLAIMS.

The confused manner in which the present system of registering claims in Cariboo is organized, has been the subject of much complaint on the part of those who have had occasion to make use of it. No one who has been in any way connected with the Cariboo, from what we have heard, that the evil has been in any way exaggerated. We can easily conceive what an amount of trouble would be caused in the city, were our system of land registration similar to that obtaining in the mines. Fancy a couple of dozen records on the same lot, by as many different persons, and these entries to be scattered through the book containing them, without any attempt at properly indexing them. A search under such circumstances to find if a person purporting to own a claim had his interest recorded, would almost be, to use a familiar phrase, like searching for a needle in a haystack. A man's time, in that country, is too valuable to be wasted, as it must necessarily be, in making searches under such a system. Property in the mines is becoming too valuable to be subjected to the risks and litigation that must often take place under present circumstances. There is no reason why a mining claim cannot be as systematically recorded as any other title to land. The principle of the system adopted in Cariboo is, perhaps, as

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FOR SALE,
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Ex "Strathallan."
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PIANOFORTES,
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—ALSO—
A Choice Assortment
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Captain McKay,
Will sail for the above ports
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The British Columbia and Victoria
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burthen, decked over, lately repaired, and in
good order, now lying in James Bay, is offered for
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MR. LAING,
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A Public House.
IN A GOOD POSITION, AND DOING
A GOOD BUSINESS.
Apply to
W. C. KING,
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And he said unto him sleep; and he did sleep.
And he dreamed he dwelt in Cariboo.
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Beds, 25 cts.
EACH, PER NIGHT, AT THE
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Wines and Liquors, and receive direct shipments
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Positively the Last Night but One
OF THE
Celebrated Orrin Family!
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MASTERS GEORGE AND EDWARD.
THURSDAY EVENING, April 16, 1863,
On which occasion they will introduce several new
and brilliant Performances.
First Night of the
GRECIAN STATUES!
By Master EDWIN ORRIN.
First Night of a
NEW PANTOMIME,
Entitled
THE MILLER AND HIS MEN!
And by desire, they will repeat their Daring and
Terrific Feats on the
DOUBLE TRAPEZE!
By New Songs, Duets, etc., etc.
Last Grand Afternoon Performance on
Saturday next, commencing at 2
o'clock, p. m.
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